

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification, paragraphs [0009] and [0010] as set forth below and required by the Office.

[0009] Lactobacilli have been extensively studied for production of antagonists. These include the well characterized bacteriocins (DeKlerk, Nature, Volume 214, 609, 1967; Upreti and Hinsdill, Anticmicrob. Agents Chemother., Volume 7, 139-145, 1975; Barefoot and Klaenhammer, Antimicrob. Agents Chemother., Volume 45, 1808-1815, 1983; Joerger and Klaenhammer, Journal of Bacteriology, Volume 167, 439-446, 1986), potential bacteriocin-like substances (Vincent et al., Journal of Bacteriol., Volume 78, 479, 1959), and other antagonists not necessarily related to bacteriocins (Vakil and Shahani, Bacteriology. Proc. 9, 1965; Hamdan and Mikolajcik, Journal of Antibiotics, Volume 8, 631-636, 1974; Mikolajcik and Hamdan, Cultured Dairy Products, Page 10, 1975; and Shahani et al., Cultured Dairy Products Journal, Volume 11, 14-17, 1976).

[0010] Klaenhammer (FEMS. Microbiol. Rev., Volume 12, 39-86, 1993) has classified the lactic acid bacteria bacteriocins known to date into four major groups:

Group I: Lantibiotics which are small peptides of <5 kDa containing the unusual amino acids lanthionine and β -methyl lanthionine. These are of particular interest in that they have very broad spectra of activity relative to other bacteriocins. Examples include Nisin, Nisin Z, carnocin U 149, lacticin 481, and lactocin 5.

Group II-Small non-lanthionine containing peptides: a heterogeneous group of small peptides of <10 kDa. This group includes peptides active against *Listeria* spp.

Group III-Large heat labile proteins of >30 kDa. An example is Helveticin.

Group IV-Complex bacteriocins-proteins containing additional moieties such as lipids and carbohydrates.